

Music development plan summary

Horizons AP Academy

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	25-26
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	1 st July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Isobel Seymour

Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

Overview of Music Curriculum Provision

At Horizons AP Academy, we are developing a music education that inspires all pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, increasing their self-confidence, creativity, and sense of achievement.

We ensure that every pupil, regardless of background or ability, has access to a vibrant and inclusive music education that nurtures individual expression and promotes musical excellence.

Curriculum Structure and Time Allocation

The music curriculum is taught throughout all key stages, with time allocated as follows:

Key Stage 1 (EYFS – Year 2):

Pupils receive one 40-minute music lesson per week across all three terms.

The curriculum includes exploring a range of musical instruments, styles and traditions, including folk, classical, pop, and music from

around the world. Music learning is often linked to class topics to deepen cross-curricular connections.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6):

Pupils receive one 40-minute music lesson per week across all three terms.

The curriculum builds on KS1 by introducing formal notation, more complex rhythmic pattern, and structured composition tasks. Students will have the opportunity to play instruments such as the recorder, ukelele, and djembe. Music learning is often linked to class topics to deepen cross-curricular connections.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9):

Pupils receive one 60-minute music lesson per week across all three terms in rotation with Drama.

The curriculum includes listening and appraising, performing, and composing, with projects that explore different genres, musical traditions, and key music theory.

Across Key Stage 3, pupils engage in:

Songwriting and performance projects

Use of classroom instruments and music technology)

Support for SEND and Disabled Pupils

Our music curriculum is fully inclusive. We work closely with the school's SENCO to ensure that:

Lessons are differentiated for pupils with a range of needs, including sensory or mobility impairments

Accessible resources and adaptive technologies are used where needed

Small-group or individual support is provided for pupils requiring additional help

SEND pupils are encouraged to participate in performances and extracurricular ensembles

More information on our school's SEND provision can be found on our website.

Qualifications and Awards

Pupils at Horizons AP Academy have the opportunity to achieve a range of AQA Unit Awards in Music ranging from instrument playing through to music production.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Start with what music tuition your school offers outside of what is taught in lesson time, At Horizons AP Academy, while we do not currently offer traditional extra-curricular ensembles or instrumental tuition, we provide meaningful and innovative co-curricular music opportunities through our dedicated on-site music studio. This space is central to our music enrichment and intervention strategy and supports both creative expression and personal development for pupils.

Music Studio: Recording, Production and Intervention

Our music studio is a unique and inclusive resource that allows pupils to:

- Record and produce their own music
- Explore music technology and digital composition in a practical, self-directed way
- Take part in targeted music intervention sessions designed to build confidence, support emotional wellbeing, and develop creativity

These sessions are available to pupils across year groups and are often tailored to support those with social, emotional or mental health needs, or those who benefit from alternative pathways, as many of our students do, to engagement in school life.

Opportunities for Progression

While we do not currently offer formal instrumental tuition or choir membership, pupils engaged in the music studio programme can:

- Develop their own creative projects and portfolios

- Build essential skills in music technology, composition and audio editing, which support pathways into GCSE and BTEC music courses that may be accessed in their mainstream or specialist provision.
- Receive support and mentoring from staff to explore careers in music production, media, and the creative industries

Pupils' work in the studio is celebrated through internal showcases and school events.

Access and Facilities

- The music studio is open for individual or small group use during lunchtimes and after school, with supervised access by arrangement with music staff.
- Pupils may be referred for music intervention through the SEND department or pastoral team or may express interest directly through the music department.

How to Get Involved

- All pupils are encouraged to express interest in using the music studio by speaking with the music department.
- Access is prioritised for pupils who benefit from music as a therapeutic or vocational outlet but is open to all year groups based on availability and interest.

Partnerships and Future Development

We continue to explore potential partnerships in the local area and local arts organisations to expand co-curricular music opportunities in the future, including:

- Visiting producers and mentors
- Bringing in external producers and mentors to coach our students
- Songwriting workshops
- Potential development of after-school music production clubs

Fee Assistance Berkshire Music Trust offer some fee assistance options for:

- Pupil Premium
- SEND

- Tax credits/Income support
- Looked After Children and Asylum Seekers

Please see their website for more details:

<https://www.berksmusictrust.org.uk/music/music-lessons/help-with-fees/>

Horizons AP Academy may also be able to offer further fee assistance for Pupil Premium students.

Instrument Hire Berkshire Music Trust also offer an instrument hire scheme:

<https://www.berksmusictrust.org.uk/music/instruments/instrument-hire/>

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise.

We believe that musical experiences beyond the classroom are vital for building cultural awareness, creative confidence, and real-world musical understanding. While we are at an early stage in developing our musical events offer, we are committed to expanding access to meaningful, inclusive, and inspiring opportunities.

At Present

Currently, Horizons AP Academy does not run regular musical events, concerts, or assemblies featuring live performance or singing. Pupils primarily engage with music through:

- Curriculum music lessons
- Access to our school music studio for individual and small-group intervention, where students can record, produce, and create original music

There are no established school choirs, instrumental ensembles, or regular trips for music enrichment at this time. However, we do provide access to practice and recording spaces during the school day and after school by arrangement.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

To enrich pupils' musical experiences, we plan to implement the following over the academic year:

1. Visiting Artists and Producers

We intend to invite local musicians, producers, and music industry professionals into school to:

- Deliver hands-on workshops in songwriting, beat-making, and digital music production
- Support intervention and enrichment in our music studio
- Inspire pupils with lived experience of the music and creative industries

These sessions will primarily target pupils from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4, especially those involved in studio-based learning or considering music pathways.

For our Primary aged pupils, we hope to work with local art centres, so pupils are able to access a wide range of musical opportunities from performance to production.

2. Trips to Musicals and Live Performances

We are exploring opportunities to take pupils to live musical theatre performances in Reading and London (West End). These trips will:

- Provide valuable cultural and artistic exposure
- Enrich the music curriculum by showing music in dramatic and narrative contexts
- Support pupils' wider personal development and creative thinking

Initial trips will be prioritised for Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils.

3. Charging and Remissions

- All trips and external workshops will be priced affordably
- Subsidies or free places will be offered for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium, Free School Meals, or with additional needs
- We will actively seek external funding or hub support to minimise costs for families